PREVIOUSLY

Unfettered by the yoke of colonization, the African warrior nation of WAKANDA flourished and became a high-tech, resource-rich, ecologically-sound paradise—one that makes the rest of the world seem primitive in comparison. Ruling over this kingdom are the BLACK PANTHER and his queen, STORM.

Only when a Skrull infiltrator in their court was accidentally revealed to them did T'Challa and Storm anticipate a Skrull invasion of Earth. Completely undetectable, the Skrulls have assumed positions of power in the government, the military, and even in the super hero community. They possess highly advanced technology, a massive armada of warships, and enough soldiers to occupy the planet.

When a Skrull army arrived at Wakanda's doorstep the Black Panther was ready for them. Knocking out each other's advanced technology, both the Skrulls and Wakandans were left with only the most primitive weapons. The ensuing combat is vicious. The defenders of Wakanda and the Skrull invaders must pay a heavy price, as scores of fallen warriors from both armies litter the battlefield.

The Black Panther bests the mightiest Warriors the Skrulls have to offer in single combat, and it seems that the tide is turning in favor of the Wakandans. But the treachery of the Skrull knows no limits and one of Storm's closest aides is revealed to be a Skrull in disguise. With his Queen in captivity, T'Challa orders his forces to barricade themselves in the city and surrenders himself to the Skrull warlord.

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IN MY TIME AS A SOLDIER, I'VE BEEN ALL OVER THE COSMOS.
TO WORLDS OF FIRE AND SOME OF ICE. WORLDS WITH CITIES THAT STRETCH FOREVER, AND OTHERS OF NOTHING BUT UNTOUCHED JUNGLE, GLISTENING GREEN AS FAR AS THE EYE CAN SEE.
I'VE BEEN STRANDED ON A SMOLDERING HUNK OF ROCK WITH THREE SUNS BLAZING IN THE SKY AND AIR SO HOT IT BURNED WHEN YOU BREATHED.
BEEN TO AN ICEBALL SO COLD THAT YOU HAD TO SLEEP WHILE WALKING OR ELSE YOUR BLOOD WOULD FREEZE IN YOUR VEINS.
BUT NO MATTER THE WORLD, I ALWAYS FIND MYSELF STANDING AGAIN IN THE EXACT SAME SPOT.
ON A BATTLEFIELD. SURROUNDED BY THE DEAD.
AND JUST LIKE EVERY TIME BEFORE, I CAN'T HELP BUT HOPE...
THAT THIS TIME WILL BE THE LAST.

THOUGH HARDER EVEN THAN SURVEYING THE DEAD ON THE BATTLEFIELD...
IS HAVING TO FACE THE SURVIVORS.
HAVING TO LOOK THEM IN THE EYE, KNOWING WHAT IT IS THEY'RE GOING THROUGH.
HOW THEIR THOUGHTS ARE RACING AND THEIR SOULS ARE WARPING, TRYING TO COME TO GRIPS WITH WHAT THEY'VE SEEN AND DONE.
I STILL REMEMBER MY FIRST TIME.
HE WAS KREE, A BOY TOO YOUNG TO HAVE EVEN KNOWN THE TOUCH OF A WOMAN.
I SHOT HIM POINT BLANK IN THE HEAD.
BUT EVEN WITHOUT A FACE, HE KEPT STARING AT ME, FOR YEARS TO COME.
AFTER HIM, THERE WERE MANY OTHERS. THE EASIER IT GOT TO KILL THEM, THE HARDER IT BECAME TO FORGET.
I'D SEE THEIR FACES IN MY DREAMS, AND SOMETIMES IN MY SLEEP I'D SHAPESHIFT INTO THEM WITHOUT REALIZING. THEN WAKE TO SEE THE FACE OF A DEAD MAN IN THE MIRROR.
I'VE STILL NEVER FORGOTTEN THOSE FACES.
I JUST STOPPED DREAMING IS ALL.

COMMANDER K'VVVR, SIR, THEY'RE READY TO BEGIN.
COMMANDER?
GOOD.
GET ME THE HELL AWAY FROM HERE.
TORTURE WARD B.
WELL, HERE WE ARE, TOGETHER AT LAST...
THE FAMOUS QUEEN ORORO AND KING T'CHALLA.
PLEASE DO EXCUSE THE MESS, YOUR HIGHNESSES, BUT YOU KNOW, YOU DID KNOCK OUT MY POWER AND CRASH MY SHIPS.
I APOLOGIZE FOR NOT BEING ABLE TO ARRANGE A MORE FORMAL GREETING FOR DIGNITARIES OF YOUR STATURE.

SEE WAKANDA AND DIE

JASON AARON	JEFTE PALO	LEE LOUGHRIDGE	VC'S CORY PETIT	JASON PEARSON	DANIEL KETCHUM & SEBASTIAN GIRNER	AXEL ALONSO	JOE QUESADA	DAN BUCKLEY
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YOU HURT MY WIFE AND I'LL HUNT YOUR ENTIRE RACE TO EXTINCTION.

HURT HER? MY DEAR KING, I WILL HAVE YOUR WIFE BEATEN UNTIL SHE IS NO LONGER RECOGNIZABLE AS A VERTEBRATE.
UNLESS YOU DO EXACTLY AS I SAY.
UNDERSTAND, I AM NOT A BUTCHER. WE ARE NOT HERE TO ANNIHILATE YOUR PEOPLE.
THIS INVASION WAS ACTUALLY COMPLETED LONG AGO. YOUR PLANET ALREADY BELONGS TO THE SKRULL EMPIRE. THE SOONER YOU ACCEPT THAT, THE SOONER WE CAN MOVE FORWARD.
YOU'LL NEVER WIN.

HAVEN'T YOU BEEN LISTENING TO ANYTHING I'VE SAID?
MAYBE YOU THINK BECAUSE YOU MANAGED TO ROOT OUT SOME OF OUR INFILTRATORS, THAT THERE'S HOPE FOR YOU AND YOUR PEOPLE.
I CAN ASSURE YOU, THERE IS NOT.

I'VE HELPED CONQUER MORE WORLDS THAN I CAN REMEMBER, KING T'CHALLA. I KNOW HOW THESE THINGS PLAY OUT.
YOU AND YOUR COUNTRYMEN CAN RESIST AND AT BEST MAKE A NUISANCE OF YOURSELVES FOR A WHILE. BUT IN THE END THAT ONLY MEANS THAT YOU'LL ALL BE KILLED.
LOOK AT YOUR WIFE. THAT COLLAR NEUTRALIZES HER POWERS, MAKING THEM AS USEFUL AS A BOSOM ON A BROOD QUEEN.
YOU HAVE NO MORE OPTIONS. ACCEPT THAT YOU'VE LOST. TELL YOUR PEOPLE TO STAND DOWN.
TELL THEM TO GO TO HELL, HONEY.
GO TO HELL, YOU BASTARDS.
I UNDERSTAND. YOU ARE OF ROYAL BLOOD. YOU COME FROM A LONG LINE OF KINGS. YOUR PRIDE WILL NOT LET YOU GIVE IN, DESPITE THE HOPELESSNESS OF YOUR SITUATION.
DO NOT WORRY THOUGH...
WE HAVE BEATEN THE PRIDE OUT OF GREATER KINGS THAN YOU.

WHUMP
KRAK
SPAK
THUMP
WHACK
MY SOLDIERS BEAT THEM FOR WHAT SEEMS LIKE HOURS WITHOUT EITHER OF THEM UTTERING SO MUCH AS A GRIMACE
OCCASIONALLY T'CHALLA WILL TELL US ALL TO GO TO HELL...
GO TO HELL...YOU BASTARDS...
WHUMP
TWACK
SMACK
BUT OTHER THAN THAT, THEY ARE SILENT.
THUNK
WHACK
WHUMP
THEY NEVER LOOK AT THE SKRULLS WHO BEAT THEM OR AT EACH OTHER. THEY ONLY STARE AT ME.
ICY STARES THAT CHILL ME TO THE BONE.
ONLY AFTER WE LAY THEM DOWN AND THE TORTURE PRIESTS BEGIN TO WORK WITH THEIR BLADES, DOES T'CHALLA GIVE IN AND GLANCE OVER AT HIS WIFE.

AAAARRRGGGHHHH!!
AND THEN HE SCREAMS.

RRRAARRGGHH!!
THEY BOTH DO.
AAARRGGHHH!!
GGGAAAGGHH!!

I DON'T LIKE IT. WE SHOULD MOVE OUT NOW.
NO, SHURI. WE *WAIT*. WE STICK TO T'CHALLA'S PLAN.

AND PRAY HE KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOING.

I'LL BE ON THE BRIDGE. ALERT ME WHEN YOU'VE BROKEN THEM.
HOW?
HOW DO YOU WRITE TO A WIFE YOU'VE HARDLY EVEN SEEN OVER THE YEARS? WHAT DO YOU SAY?
LAST WE SPOKE, I TOLD HER THIS WOULD BE AN EASY ASSIGNMENT. THAT I'D TAKE THE COUNTRY IN A HEARTBEAT, THEN HAND IT OVER TO AN OCCUPYING FORCE.
AND AFTER THAT, I'D BE DONE. DONE WITH WAR. DONE WITH THE EMPIRE FOREVER.
HOW DO I TELL MY WIFE THE TRUTH?
THESE WAKANDANS WILL NEVER GIVE IN. NO MATTER WHAT WE DO TO THEM. WE'LL HAVE TO TAKE THIS LAND VILLAGE BY VILLAGE, STREET BY BLOODY STREET.
AND WHO CAN BLAME THEM? IF I'D BEEN BORN TO A LAND LIKE THIS...
I'D FIGHT TO THE DEATH FOR IT TOO.
KNOCK KNOCK
COME!

ARE YOU READY TO BE REASONABLE NOW, OH GREAT KING, OR SHALL WE CONTINUE?
TELL THEM TO GO TO HELL, HONEY...
GO TO HELL, YOU-- KKKKEKKK
THEY'RE REPEATING THEMSELVES. MUST BE THE DELIRIUM SETTING IN. I'D SAY ANOTHER ADRENALINE SHOT IS CALLED FOR.
THAT'S ODD...
WHAT IS IT?
FEELS LIKE... LIKE SOMETHING'S LODGED IN THE THROAT HERE
HAND ME THE FORCEPS, WILL YOU?

YES? WHAT IS IT?
WE BRING
HOW
AGENTS?
SPEAK UP!
IT WAS THEIR SOULS SIR.
THEIR WHAT?
bleeet bleeet
DAMN! HOLD ON.
THIS

SIR, I'VE REMOVED SOMETHING UNUSUAL FROM THE THROAT OF THE BLACK PANTHER. IT APPEARS TO BE SOME PRIMITIVE FORM OF VOCAL MANIPULATOR
AND NOW WELL...
YOU'D BETTER COME SEE FOR YOURSELF SIR
LISTEN TO ME, I'M TELLING THE TRUTH!
THEY SET US UP! THEY KNEW WE WERE COMING FOR THEM!
WE THOUGHT WE HAD THEM BUT... OH SEVEN HELLS, THE PAIN, WHAT'VE YOU DONE TO ME?!
THEY WERE ONLY PRETENDING TO BE CAPTURED! FIRST CHANCE THEY HAD, THEY TURNED THE TABLES ON US! THEY AMBUSHED US! THEY SWITCHED PLACES!
LISTEN TO ME, YOU IMBECILES...
I AM NOT THE BLACK PANTHER!

SAY AGAIN, PRIEST. I CAN'T MAKE YOU OUT. WHO'S THAT SCREAMING?
IT WAS THEIR SOULS, COMMANDER
COMMANDER SVVR, SIR, CAN YOU HEAR ME? WE NEED
WAIT! I'VE FOUND SOMETHING ELSE!
LISTEN TO ME, I AM NOT... GGGAAAAA
SKRULL TECHNOLOGY WAS ABLE TO MASK THEIR BODIES, EVEN THEIR MINDS, BUT NOT THEIR SOULS.
WILL YOU BE QUIET BACK THERE
PRIEST, SAY AGAIN?
PRIEST, SAY AGAIN? WHAT THE HELL IS HAPPENING DOWN THERE?
WRRG!

THEY...THEY USED VOCAL MANIPULATORS AND FLESH TRANSMUTERS SIR. THEY FOOLED US COMPLETELY. WE NEVER EVEN REALIZED THEY HAD TECHNOLOGY THIS ADVANCED. WE...
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU BABBLING ABOUT!
THEY COULDN'T HIDE THEIR SOULS NOT FROM THE PANTHER GOD!
STORM AND THE BLACK PANTHER ARE STILL AT LARGE!

THE PANTHER GOD SEES ALL, COMMANDER K'VVVR.

THERE'S THE SIGNAL!
CHARGE, WAKANDA! LEAVE NO SKRULL ALIVE!
RRRRAAARRR!

I LOVE IT WHEN A PLAN COMES TOGETHER.
COMMANDER K'VVVR, WE ARE UNDER AT--
UH-OH.
LET'S FINISH THIS, MY LOVE.
RIGHT BEHIND YOU, DEAR.
KKK... KKKK...
...
DEAREST K'ARR'N, MY FAITHFUL WIFE...

I AM WRITING TO TELL YOU THAT OUR MISSION GOES WELL. THE INVASION HAS COME OFF FLAWLESSLY, JUST AS THE GENERALS PREDICTED. EARTH IS OURS.
THESE WAKANDANS ARE PUTTING UP A BIT OF A FIGHT, BUT THERE IS NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
I WOULD RATHER THEY SUBMIT PEACEFULLY, OF COURSE, BUT FOOLHARDY EARTHERS THAT THEY ARE, THEY HAVE TROUBLE SEEING THE HOPELESSNESS OF THEIR SITUATION.
I'M AFRAID WE MAY HAVE TO KILL MORE OF THEM THAN I WOULD LIKE. AND YOU KNOW HOW I ABHOR BLOODSHED. BUT SOMETIMES IT'S SIMPLY UNAVOIDABLE.

THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU INVADE WAKANDA

SOMETIMES YOU HAVE TO SEND A MESSAGE.

WAKANDA AND ITS PEOPLE WILL SOON RELENT, AND THUS MY COMMITMENT WILL BE FINISHED. AS I PROMISED YOU, THIS WILL BE MY LAST WAR.

SOON WE'LL BE TOGETHER, SAILING THE SKYWAYS, DOING THE THINGS WE NEVER GOT TO DO WHEN WE WERE YOUNG.
I LOOK FORWARD TO THAT DAY WITH EVERY OUNCE OF MY BEING.

I REMAIN AS ALWAYS, YOUR DEVOTED HUSBAND...
K'VVVR, SON OF K'AND'RR, COMMANDER OF THE 7TH FLEET.
LONG LIVE THE EMPIRE.
-THE END-